

# News from the Community of Saint Peter

## One or Two Things

Don't bother me.  
I've just been born.

The butterfly's loping flight  
carries it through the country of the leaves  
delicately, and well enough to get it  
where it wants to go, wherever that is, stopping  
here and there to fuzzle the damp throats  
of flowers and the black mud; up  
and down it swings, frenzied and aimless; and sometimes

for long delicious moments it is perfectly  
lazy, riding motionless in the breeze on the soft stalk  
of some ordinary flower.

The god of dirt came up to me many times and said  
so many wise and delectable things, I lay  
on the grass listening

to his dog voice, crow voice, frog voice; now,  
he said, and now,  
and never once mentioned forever,

which has nevertheless always been,  
like a sharp iron hoof,  
at the center of my mind.

One or two things are all you need  
to travel over the blue pond, over the deep  
roughage of the trees and through the stiff  
flowers of lightning—some deep  
memory of pleasure, some cutting  
knowledge of pain.

But to lift the hoof!  
For that you need an idea.

Mary Oliver, *New and Selected Poems*. Vol. 1



## August 23, 2023

Twenty-first Ordinary Sunday, August 27, 2023

First Reading: Isaiah 22:19-23

Response: Ps 138:1-2,2-3,6,8

Second Reading: Romans 11:33-36

Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

## Pray

General Intercessions  
August 20, 2023

20<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Sunday

Jesus chose to help the Canaanite woman, even though there had historically been divisions between his people and hers. We pray that, like Jesus, we may choose love and compassion for neighbor over politics, division, or difference. For the compassion to cross borders of every sort, we pray . . .

Despite her culture, her upbringing, or what her communities might think, the Canaanite woman chose to put her faith in Jesus, in Love Incarnate. We pray that we too may have the courage to walk boldly towards love, putting our faith in the Christ we have come to know. For courage to trust in the healing touch of the Body of Christ, we pray . . .

We pray this morning for the individual who will become our new pastor-administrator. We pray that they make the choice to surrender to this new fork in their road, and that they listen to the call to become our shepherd in the new season of our community. For our next pastor, we pray . . .

We continue to pray for our friend Frank Targoss, his spouse Chris, and all others in need of a healing touch. We pray for their health, wellness, and spirits as they face a difficult season, and that they may continue to know of Your love for them through it all. For Frank and Chris, and all others who need healing, we pray . . .

As the death toll in Maui continues to rise, we pray in sorrow for our neighbors facing terrible losses. We have now heard so many stories of climate tragedies, and fear the stories to come. May those who are grieving find consolation and support, and may we all work together to take better care of our earth. For all the victims of extreme weather, we pray . . .

Our needs are many, and our hearts are open. We pause now to lift up all prayers left unsaid . . . [ ]  
For these, and all others we have yet to name, we pray . . .

## Reflect

"Through Jesus Christ, God's own broad, deep, and all-inclusive worldview is made available to us. In fact, I'd go so far as to say that the point of the Christian life is to stand in radical solidarity with everyone and everything else. This is the full, final, and intended effect of the Incarnation—symbolized by the cross, which is *God's great act of solidarity instead of judgment*. This is how we are to imitate Jesus, the good Jewish man who saw and called forth the divine in Gentiles like the Syrophenician woman and the Roman centurions who followed him; in Jewish tax collectors who collaborated with the Empire; in zealots who opposed it; in sinners of all stripes; in eunuchs, pagan astrologers, and all those "outside the law." Jesus had no trouble whatsoever with *otherness*.

If we are ready to reclaim the true meaning of "catholic," which is "universal," we must concentrate on including—as Jesus clearly did—instead of excluding—which he never did. *The only thing Jesus excluded was exclusion itself.*"

Source: Richard Rohr's Daily Meditation on July 3, 2023; adapted from Richard Rohr, [The Universal Christ: How a Forgotten Reality Can Change Everything We See, Hope for, and Believe](#) (New York: Convergent, 2019), 32, 33, 34.



We will be celebrating our **annual Mass of Anointing on Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>**. As has been our tradition, this liturgy will focus on the healing ministry of our Community, reaching out to anyone who is suffering from physical, mental, or emotional struggles. All who wish to be anointed should sit in the front row of our worship space. If you are reading this and you wish to attend but you will require some assistance with transportation, please call me (216.469.4147) or [write to our office](#) and we will help make arrangements. Thank you.

The **Education Committee** will meet this evening at 5:15pm in Suite 125.

SAVE THE DATE . . . We are planning a **Community Retreat** with a focus on our celebrations as a Eucharistic people on **Saturday, November 4 from 9am to 3:30pm**. As we prepare for a transition on our Pastoral Team, reflection and conversation about our identity as the living Body of Christ would be timely and appropriate. More details to follow. For now, please mark this day on your calendar and [RSVP](#) on our website. Thank you.

**Thanks go to Pat Henry** for coordinating the freshest round of Hospitality Teams who allow us to extend our celebration into our gathering space. And thanks **to all the hospitality team members**. Your kindness is most appreciated. As a reminder to all who partake, we can compost our napkins and uncoated paper plates, along with all food scraps, including dairy and meat. Just drop refuse and leftovers into one of the Rust Belt Riders green buckets. Thanks everybody.

**Rid-All Green Partnership is a remarkable force in a forgotten triangle!**



Damien Forshe (Co-Founder) owned and operated Rid-All Exterminating Corporation for 15 years, but his true passion was urban agriculture. Deeply embedded in him since his youth, Damien got the chance to fulfill his dream in 2011.

[Rid-All Green Partnership](#) is a non-profit in Cleveland's Kinsman neighborhood, where the founders transformed a former illegal dumping site into a 15-acre agriculture campus. **Their mission is to grow nutritious food for local residents while training adults and youth on environmental sustainability, urban farming and wellness.**

They will be hosting their annual "Fresh Fest" on Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup> from 1pm till 9pm. There will be music and food and culture in abundance. **The mission of Fresh Fest Cleveland is to celebrate the arts and urban agriculture, promote health and wellness, showcase fresh and local food, all while breaking down the barriers of this unified and fertile neighborhood and emphasizing cultural unity.** See the flier in this letter and get your free tickets to Fresh Fest 2023 [HERE](#).





## NOACA wants to know what we think . . .

The Northeast Ohio Area Coordinating Agency (NOACA) is hosting a series of community engagement meetings in the five NOACA counties of Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, and Medina to solicit input for the development of NOACA's Region Climate Action Plan (CAP) to improve climate resiliency in Northeast Ohio. Gaining insights from the public will help develop a stronger, more inclusive plan for the NOACA region.

These engagement meetings will be a series of 75-minute sessions in each of the five counties and will be conducted from August to September 2023. NOACA staff and consultants will facilitate the community engagement discussions.

With these engagements, NOACA seeks input on what climate-related concerns the public are most concerned about, and what criteria NOACA should consider using to evaluate mitigation and adaptation efforts to protect the regional assets most vulnerable to the climate related hazards. In addition, we seek to learn from the public what they hope to see included in the CAP that NOACA is developing.



CSP will host one of these engagement sessions on **Wednesday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in Suite 125**. Once you [RSVP](#) on our website, you will receive the agenda for the evening and the discussion questions. This is a great opportunity to add our Community voices to regional discussions.



## *Fascinating . . .*

### **NYT: Quiz: What's the Best Way to Shrink Your Carbon Footprint?**

A very short [quiz](#) and an article that will tell you more . . .

Marie Dietrich alerted me to an offering from Cuyahoga County Public Library that she recommends heartily. It is called "Poverty Simulation." "This immersive empathy experience from the Greater Cleveland Food Bank will help you understand what it might be like to live in a typical low-income family trying to stretch a budget through the month. You'll need to make choices around housing, transportation, schooling and food – all while operating within your budget. Marie participated and served as the "banker" for one of the simulations. Her description of how things played out was quite animated. If you want to pick up on Marie's enthusiastic recommendation, there are three upcoming sessions. C

all the branch for more details or to sign up:

Olmsted Falls Branch on Tuesday, September 12 at 7pm

Parma-Snow Branch on Monday, October 23 at 7pm

Beachwood Branch on Monday, November 27 at 2pm

Kate O'Donnell alerted me to a short piece in the West Shore Sun News that featured Joe Konen in an article entitled "Westlake seniors finding 'common purpose' in conversations about democracy," August 14. Have a look [HERE!](#)





We wonder if “Letter to the Editors” could be a viable addition to this newsletter. We never did manage to get the blog feature of our website off the ground. This page might be that much more visible and accessible and some of our 725+ subscribers might want to raise a question, make a comment, remark about a recent event, or recall something recent within the Community that would warrant elaboration. Feel free to get this started, even if your first contribution is just about the option to write a “Letter to the Editors” itself.

Just send your letter to the [community.saintpeter@gmail.com](mailto:community.saintpeter@gmail.com) with “Letter to the Editors” in the subject line. We’ll figure out who the best responder would be and invite them to respond. Just like in the local papers, there is no guarantee that your letter will be selected, but this could prove to be an invaluable opportunity for all of our readers. Thanks for considering this.

- The Editors

**We are looking for a caption for the photo!**

It was suggested by the candid photographer that we ask for a caption for the photo of Bob presiding with the farmer’s hoe at his side. The photo was captured on Sunday, August 13th.



The smaller of these two photos is looking down the oak handle of the farmer’s hoe at the blade and the wedge. The wedge in the photo is the one that went missing for several weeks. A spare wedge was fabricated in a foundry not far from 7100, and that spare is now holding the metal blade firmly in place. The next time the blade comes loose, Bob will likely replace the wedge with the one that was found.

\*\*Submit your caption before publication next week at [community.saintpeter@gmail.com](mailto:community.saintpeter@gmail.com)



“ \_\_\_\_\_ ”  
Photo by Jimmy Menkhaus.

For Susi, Cynthia, and Martha,



## A Summer Note from the Pastoral Minister's Desk

I want to start by offering one final THANK YOU for all your support of The Caring's Community Baby Shower! There were new diapers, wipes, clothing, and washtubs each Sunday during the month of August. Ms. Jackson was delighted and grateful for our community's generosity. The baby shower, which will take place on September 9th, will provide 38 pregnant families with the necessary items. More information on the event can be found [HERE](#).

On Sunday I received an email from a community member who has been tuning in via YouTube Santa Rosa, CA for the last two years. She was happy to share that she was baptized at historic St. Peter Church 78 years ago! It was a great reminder to me that our extended community not only reaches farther than 7100 Euclid; it reaches across the country! We are surrounded by a circle of faith companions, both near and far. Thank you to all of you who stay connected to the community by subscribing to the newsletter, tuning in to YouTube for Liturgies, joining Education Programs, or simply thinking of the community fondly from a distance. We are many parts, but one body!

A community member recently shared a piece that she found in Richard Rohr's "Daily Meditation" email. The artist, Amena Brown, respond through spoken word to the question: "How do you know when you're hearing from God?" Her performance of the poem can be found [HERE](#). I wanted to share a few of my favorite lines from the poem:

*"I didn't know how to explain. It is to explain the butter grit of cornbread to a mouth that just discovered it had a tongue."*

*"...like explaining to a newborn baby this is what it feels like to be held."*

*"you will find the holy text in so many places- on crinkly pages of scripture, in a dusty hymnal, in the creases of a grandmother's smile."*

*"God's ears don't play favorites."*

*"Maybe the best thing I can do is put my hand in the center of my chest and feel the rhythm there,"*

Do you have a favorite line of the poem? What would you say if someone asked you the question, "How do you know when you're hearing from God?"

With Hop

*Martha Lopez*

## Timeline for 2023 Nomination and Election of Trustee(s)

2023	Actions
August 12	Board of Trustees forms Nominating Committee.
August 16	Newsletter and subsequent issues announce the process of nomination and election of two members to the Board of Trustees.
September 10	Nomination forms are made available to Community members.
September 24	Nomination forms are due.
September 25	Nominating Committee meets to review nominees and determine nominee's willingness to serve.
September 25	Nominees will be contacted and advised to submit answers to basic questions, comment on skills base, and speak about the Community present and what they envision for the future.
October 15	Candidates will be presented to the Community and ballots will be available after the Liturgy. Unclaimed ballots will be mailed.
October 29	All ballots are due.
November 1	Votes are tallied. The individuals with the two highest number of votes will be elected to serve three years.
November 12	Annual meeting of the Community after the Liturgy. Winners of the election is announced to the Community.

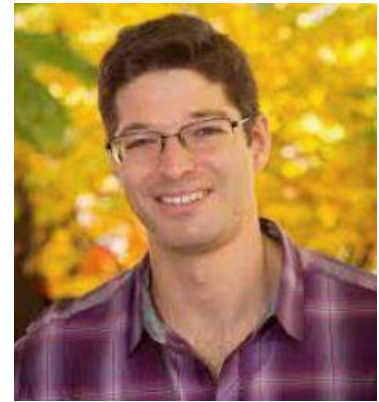


FaCT-Faith Communities Together for a Sustainable Future  
[www.factohio.org](http://www.factohio.org)

## *Distinguished Speaker Series*

### “American Canopy: Trees, Forests, and the Making of a Nation” Saturday, Sept. 16 at 3:00 p.m. ET

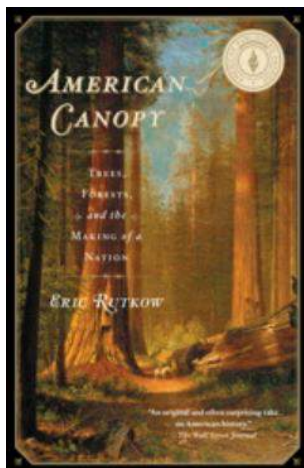
Eric Rutkow is a writer, lawyer and historian. His first book, *American Canopy: Trees, Forests, and the Making of a Nation* (Scribner, 2012), received the Association of American Publisher’s PROSE award for U.S. history, was named one of the top twelve books of the year by *Smithsonian* magazine, and was selected for Oprah’s online book club.



Eric Rutkow

Rutkow’s research and teaching is focused on international relations, the environment, political economy, and tourism. Before earning his doctorate, Rutkow practiced as an environmental human rights lawyer in Cambodia and as a junior associate with Latham & Watkins LLC in New York. He received his BA and PhD from Yale and his JD from Harvard. Currently he is an Assistant Professor of History at the University of Central Florida in Orlando.

Eric Rutkow’s “deeply fascinating” (The Boston Globe) work shows how trees were essential to the early years of the republic and indivisible from the country’s rise as both an empire and a civilization. Among *American Canopy*’s many captivating stories: the Liberty Trees, where colonists gathered to plot rebellion against the British; Henry David Thoreau’s famous retreat into the woods; the creation of New York City’s Central Park; the great fire of 1871 that killed a thousand people in the lumber town of Peshtigo, Wisconsin; the fevered attempts to save the American chestnut and the American elm from extinction; and the controversy over spotted owls and the old-growth forests they inhabited.



Register for this Zoom Event: [REGISTER](#)  
Or to register visit: [www.factohio.org/dist-speak](http://www.factohio.org/dist-speak)

Zoom participants will be eligible to win a copy of *American Canopy*





Fresh Fest Cleveland RETURNS on Saturday, September 9, 2023 from 1 to 9pm, with an amazing line-up of music, and a full day of unforgettable performances, art installations, health and wellness activities, farmer's market, chef tastings, local vendors, hands-on activities, workshops, and a kids zone filled with fun for the whole family! ✨ New: Order your drink tickets ahead of time!

**Fresh Fest Cleveland is FREE and OPEN TO ALL.**

FESTIVAL MISSION: Presented by [Environmental Health Watch](#), [Rid-All Green Partnership](#), and [Brittany's Record Shop](#), the mission of Fresh Fest Cleveland is to celebrate the arts and urban agriculture, promote health and wellness, to showcase fresh and local food while breaking down the barriers of this unified and fertile neighborhood and emphasizing cultural unity.

LOCATION: Fresh Fest Cleveland is hosted in the Urban Agriculture Innovation Zone at [Rid-All Farm](#) (one of the largest and most popular urban farms in Cleveland) and [Otter Park](#), which occupy 26.5 acres of previously vacant and repurposed land in Cleveland's Kinsman neighborhood.

PARKING & SHUTTLE: Parking is free! Secure festival parking is available at [Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority @ 8120 Kinsman Road](#). A complimentary shuttle will loop between the festival parking and Fresh Fest starting at 1 PM, with continuous pick-up and return service through the end of the festival.

WEBSITE: Visit [FreshFestCleveland.com](https://FreshFestCleveland.com) for detailed event and programming information, schedule, and updates. ✨ Please note: Free tickets are required. Simply show your mobile or printed tickets at the festival entry.



This is Rid-All Green Cooperative's annual event → <https://ridall.org>. Check this out . . .



“Earth Friendly Habits” by Kate Valentine, with Rose Jancsy



### 37. Teach Future Generations

*Our efforts at education will be inadequate and ineffectual unless we strive to promote a new way of thinking about human beings, life, society and our relationship with nature. Pope Francis Laudato Si*

One of the most important things we can do is to teach future generations to love creation. Take your children, grandchildren, nephews and nieces or children in your neighborhood on walks in nature. Point out the beautiful and amazing things you see. Talk to them about how we are all dependent on the health of the planet and about the interconnectedness of all creation. Plant a garden with them. Let them help to harvest its bounty. Set up a birdfeeder and teach them to identify the birds that come to feed. Play with them in the snow and the leaves as you point out the beauty in all seasons. When they are older talk to them about the importance of the choices they make in life. Encourage them to vote for and work towards a healthy environment. The single most important thing to do is to set a good example.

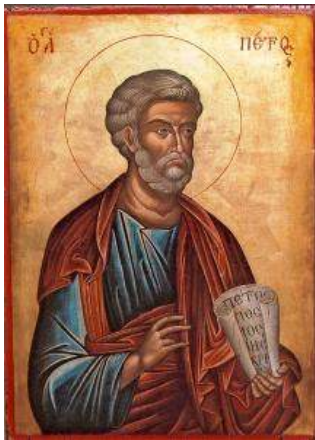
**The acorn doesn't fall far from the tree 36.**

August 23, 2023



The Community of Saint Peter

*Preserving and Renewing a Living Tradition*



We are a Catholic Community.  
Our sharing of the Eucharist and  
the Word challenges us:  
to live the message of Jesus,  
to love and respect all people,  
to serve the poor, and  
to work for peace and justice.

#### Pastoral Team

Cynthia Caporella, PhD, *Director of Music*

Susi Kawolics, MA, *Admin Assistant*

Bob Kloos, MDiv, *Pastor/Administrator*

Martha Ligas, MA, *Pastoral Minister*

Louise Prochaska, PhD, *Board President*

Robert J. Marrone, DMin, *Pastor Emeritus*

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